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**Imagery analysis report**

**Summary of Air Activity  
Nanjing Military Region, China  
March 1979 — August 1980 (S)**

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**IAR-0207/80  
FEBRUARY 1981  
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## SUMMARY OF AIR ACTIVITY, NANJING MILITARY REGION, CHINA MARCH 1979—AUGUST 1980 (S)

1. (S/D) This report summarizes air-associated activity in the Nanjing Military Region (MR), China, as seen on satellite photography between March 1979 and August 1980. The information included pertains to the organizational structure, air order of battle (AOB), electronic navigation aids, associated antiaircraft artillery (AAA) defenses, and status of all airfields. This report contains photographs, tables, and locator maps.

### INTRODUCTION

2. (S/D) Significant air-associated activity observed in the Nanjing MR during the reporting period includes the return of four of nine fighter regiments from the Chinese/Vietnamese border,<sup>1</sup> the identification of two Air Force flight training schools, the continuing construction of a new aircraft plant and repair base, the renovation of two airfields, and new construction at five other airfields (Table 1).

### DESCRIPTION

3. (S/D) The air forces of the Nanjing MR consist of two major commands: the Chinese Air Force (CAF) and the Chinese Naval Air Force (CNAF). The CAF, located at 19 airfields, consists of six divisions, one independent regiment, one independent squadron, three air schools, and two maintenance

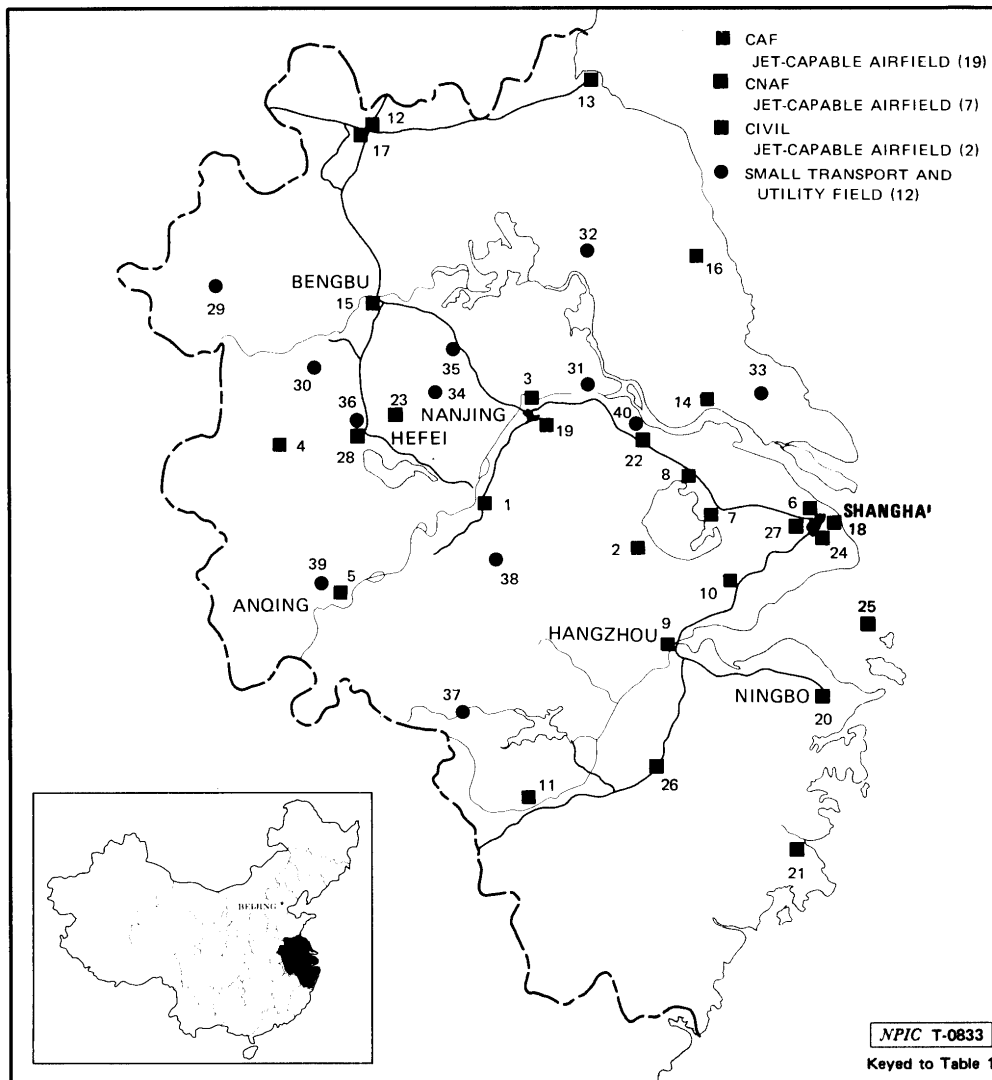


FIGURE 1. AIRFIELDS IN NANJING MILITARY REGION, CHINA

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**Table 1.**  
**Airfields and Associated Units, Nanjing Military Region**  
**(Items keyed to Figure 1)**

*This table in its entirety is classified TOP SECRET RUFF [REDACTED]*

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Item	Unit*	Airfield	Runway Dimensions (m) Orientation Surface	Latest Air Order of Battle	Landing Aids	Occupied AAA Sites	Aircraft Storage Tunnels	Remarks
<b>CHINESE AIR FORCE (CAF) HQ</b>								
<b>NANJING MR HQ</b>								
<b>3rd Division</b>								
1	3rd Div Hq Trng Sqdn 9th Regt	Wuhu Airfield [REDACTED] 31-23-30N 118-24-30E	2,200 x 61 ENE/WSW Concrete	[REDACTED] 28 FISHBED (9th) 33 FAGOT/FRESCO 3 COLT	NDB PAR	—	—	FISHBED returned from prob deployment to Guangzhou MR by [REDACTED] new construction in maint and repair facility
2	7th Regt 8th Regt	Changxing Airfield [REDACTED] 30-58-03N 119-43-57E	2,209 x 45 ENE/WSW Concrete	[REDACTED] 30 FARMER (7th) 28 FAGOT/FRESCO (8th)	Prob NDB PAR	—	2	FARMER returned by [REDACTED]; 1st observance since [REDACTED]
<b>10th Division</b>								
3	10 Div Hq 29th Regt 30th Regt Spec Purpose Unit	Nanjing/Yuxikou Airfield [REDACTED] 31-59-45N 118-48-44E	2,213 x 58 NE/SW Concrete	[REDACTED] 38 BEAGLE 1 CRATE 2 CAB 2 COLT	NDB GCA PAR	—	—	Normal AOB is 1 regt BEAGLE; 1 regt arrived [REDACTED] probably from Liuan; 9 FANTAN observed 3 and [REDACTED] major civil airfield
4	10th Div Hq 28th Regt	Liuan Airfield [REDACTED] 31-37-23N 116-16-40E	2,609 x 50 NW/SE Concrete	[REDACTED] 13 BADGER	Prob NDB PAR	—	2	BADGER arrived from ANQING by [REDACTED] 30th Regt BEAGLE home-based here deployed to Nanjing/Yuxikou Under renovation, not operational; during renov 4th Ind Regt normally here deployed to Motou; part of 28th Regt moved to Liuan
5	28th Regt	Anqing Airfield North [REDACTED] 30-34-48N 117-03-08E	2,598 x 53 NE/SW Concrete	[REDACTED] 6 BADGER	NDB PAR	—	1	
<b>26th Division (Fourth Air Army)</b>								
6	26th Div Hq 78th Regt Ind Sqdn	Shanghai/Jiangwan Airfield [REDACTED] 31-20-21N 121-30-20E	2,195 x 82 N/S Concrete	[REDACTED] 16 prob FARMER (78th) 10 FAGOT/FRESCO	NDB PAR	4	—	2nd FARMER regt absent since [REDACTED]
7	76th Regt	Suzhou West 2 Airfield [REDACTED] 31-15-46N 120-24-04E	2,211 x 47 N/S Concrete	[REDACTED] 24 FARMER	NDB Prob PAR	—	1	FARMER returned from Sino-Viet- namese conflict by [REDACTED]
8	76th Regt 77th Regt	Wuxi Airfield [REDACTED] 31-29-37N 120-25-44E	2,225 x 64 N/S Concrete	[REDACTED] 21 FARMER (76th) 11 FRESCO (77th)	NDB PAR	—	—	Underground bunker ucon
<b>28th Division (Fourth Air Army***)</b>								
9	28th Div Hq 82nd or 83rd Regt 84th Regt	Hangzhou/Jianqiao Airfield [REDACTED] 30-20-02N 120-14-18E	3,200 x 61 ENE/WSW Concrete	[REDACTED] 58 FANTAN 4 FAGOT/FRESCO 1 CRATE 1 COLT	ILS PAR FIX- EIGHT	—	—	FANTAN regt returned from Sino- Vietnamese conflict by [REDACTED] major civil airfield
10	82th or 83rd Regt 29th Div, 86th Regt	Jiaxing Airfield [REDACTED] 30-42-26N 120-41-00E	2,195 x 67 NE/SW Concrete	[REDACTED] 28 FARMER (86TH) 31 FAGOT/FRESCO (82nd or 83rd) 1 BEAST	Prob NDB PAR	—	—	Underground command and control bunker ucon

\*Information on subordination was derived from reference document 2.

\*\*Wade-Giles transliteration.

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Item	Unit*	Airfield	Runway Dimensions (m) Orientation Surface	Latest Air Order of Battle	Landing Aids	Occupied AAA Sites	Aircraft Storage Tunnels	Remarks	Item	Unit*	Airfield	Runway Dimensions (m) Orientation Surface	Latest Air Order of Battle	Landing Aids	Occupied AAA Sites	Aircraft Storage Tunnels	Remarks
<b>29th Division</b>									<b>5th Division</b>								
11	85th Regt	Quxian Airfield	2,180 x 63 NE/SW	42 FARMER (85th)	PAR	—	—		22	5th Div Hq	Danyang Airfield	2,200 x 65 ESE/WNW	23 BEAGLE (13th)	Prob	—	—	BEAGLE count low
	87th Regt	28-57-57N	Concrete	25 FAGOT/FRESCO	PAR	—	—			13th Regt	31-55-04N	Concrete	20 BAT (14th)	NDB	—	—	between
	86th Regt	118-53-48E		(87th)		—	—			14th Regt	119-46-52E			PAR	—	—	and
	(see item 10)			3 COLT		—	—		23	15th Regt	Shih-tang-chiao Airfield**	2,621 x 55 NE/SW	17 BEAGLE	NDB	—	1	
<b>32nd Division</b>											31-54-23N	Concrete					
12	32nd Div Hq	Xuzhou/ Dagouzhuang Airfield	2,195 x 61 E/W	33 FARMER	NDB	—	1	AAA exercise underway on			117-39-27E						
	94th Regt		Concrete	32 FAGOT (96th)	PAR	—	—										
	96th Regt	34-13-38N				—	—										
		117-14-40E				—	—										
13	95th Regt	Lien-yun/Pai-ta-pu Airfield**	2,195 x 61 NE/SW	25 FARMER	NDB	—	—	AAA exercise underway on									
		34-34-22N	Concrete	1 COKE/CURL	PAR	—	—	hardened bunker ucon									
		118-52-29E		1 HOUND		—	—										
<b>Independent Unit</b>																	
14	4th Ind Regt (Fourth Air Army)	Motou Airfield	2,195 x 52 NW/SE	14 FARMER	NDB	—	—	AAA exercise underway on									
		32-15-24N	Concrete	9 FAGOT	PAR	—	—	craft on									
		120-30-12E		1 COLT		—	—	AOB normal on									
						—	—	hardened bunker ucon									
<b>CAF Schools/Repair Depots/Miscellaneous Units</b>									<b>Miscellaneous Airfields</b>								
15	13th Air School	Bengbu Airfield	2,195 x 61 ENE/WSW	43 FAGOT/MID- GET/FRESCO	NDB	—	—	See text; formerly homebase for 2 FANTAN regts									
		32-55-51N	Concrete	6 MAX/MOOSE	PAR	—	—										
		117-22-07E		2 COLT		—	—										
				1 HIP-C		—	—										
16	13th Air School	Yancheng Airfield	2,195 x 52 NE/SW	43 FAGOT/MID- GET/FRESCO	NDB	—	—	See text; formerly homebase for 1 FARMER and 1 FAGOT/ FRESCO regts									
		33-25-20N	Concrete		PAR	—	—										
		120-12-42E				—	—										
17	Unidentified CAF School	Xuzhou/Jiulishan Airfield	1,355 x 60 ENE/WSW	41 MAX	Prob	—	—										
		34-17-10N	Asphalt		NDB	—	—										
		117-09-50E				—	—										
18	CAF Repair Depot 5703	Shanghai/Longhua Airfield	1,875 x 75 N/S	14 COLT	NDB	1	—	Possibly associated with Shanghai/ Dachang Aircraft Plant/Rpr Base; 2 hangars ucon									
		31-10-15N	Concrete			—	—										
		121-27-08E				—	—										
19	5th Ind Sqdn	Yuxikou Satellite Airfield	645 x 30 ENE/WSW	11 COLT	Prob	—	—	Satellite airfield									
		31-58-17N	Asphalt	12 HOUND	NDB	—	—										
		118-50-25E				—	—										
<b>CHINESE NAVAL AIR FORCE (CNAF)</b>									<b>CIVIL AIR ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA (CAAC)</b>								
<b>EAST SEA FLEET HQ</b>																	
<b>4th Division</b>									27	Civil	Shanghai/Hongqiao Airfield	3,200 x 64 N/S	3 TRIDENT	ILS	—	—	
20	4th Div Hq	Ningbo Airfield	2,499 x 61 NW/SE	14 FARMER (12th)	NDB	1	—	Three missile railcars observed in POL storage area throughout reporting period				Concrete	4 CURL	GCA	—	—	
	11th Regt	29-55-28N	Concrete	20 prob FARMER	PAR	—	—						5 CRATE	PAR	—	—	
	12th Regt	121-34-25E		(12th)		—	—						2 CAB		—	—	
	4th Ind Sqdn			15 prob FAGOT/ FRESCO (11th)		—	—								—	—	
				9 COLT		—	—								—	—	
				4 prob HOUND		—	—								—	—	
21	10th Regt	Luqiao Airfield	2,502 x 60 NE/SW	12 BEAGLE	NDB	6	—	12 BEAGLE observed on									
	4th Ind Sqdn	28-33-46N	Concrete	36 FARMER (10th)	PAR	—	—										
		121-25-45E		7 FRESCO		—	—										
				2 FAGOT		—	—										
				2 COLT		—	—										
									<b>TRANSPORT AND UTILITY AIRFIELDS</b>								
									29		Fuyang Airfield						
											32-53-00N 115-46-00E						
									30		Huoqiu Airfield						
											32-20-22N 116-17-07E						
									31		Zhenjiang Airfield						
											32-09-43N 119-27-39E						
									32		Qingjiang Airfield						
											33-35-33N 119-04-27E						
									33		Nantong Airfield Northeast						
											32-04-30N 120-58-20E						
									34		Chihe Landing Strip						
											32-20-10N 117-53-55E						
									35		Shiba Landing Strip						
											32-44-40N 118-03-40E						
									36		Hefei Airfield						
											31-52-19N 117-18-47E						
									37		Tunxi Airfield						
											29-43-56N 118-15-44E						
									38		Yangliupu Airfield						
											30-50-18N 118-35-22E						
									39		Anqing Airfield						
											30-31-17N 117-07-02E						
									40		Wujin Heliport						
											31-47-26N 119-54-22E						

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and repair facilities. The CNAF, located at seven airfields, consists of three divisions and one maintenance and repair facility. Two of the four civil airfields in the military region are collocated with the CAF (at Nanjing/Yuxikou and Hangzhou/Jianqiao Airfields) and are capable of handling medium-to-large jet transport aircraft. Twelve small transport and utility airfields are also located in the MR. The locations of all airfields in the Nanjing MR are shown in Figure 1.

4. (S/D) During the Sino-Vietnamese incursion, nine regiments of fighter/fighter-bomber aircraft departed the Nanjing MR from six airfields: Wuhu, Suzhou West, Hangzhou, Bengbu, Yancheng, and Wuxi. At the end of the incursion, only Wuhu, Suzhou, Wuxi, and Hangzhou Airfields were reoccupied by the original units. The two FANTAN regiments previously deployed at Bengbu Airfield did not return. In mid-January 1979, FAGOT/FRESCO/MIDGET and FRESCO trainer aircraft occupied the field. The FARMER and FAGOT/FRESCO regiments previously deployed at Yancheng also had not returned. Since then Yancheng has been occupied primarily by FRESCO trainers and MIDGET aircraft.

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5. (S/D) Other major air activity in the MR was centered around the renovation of Anqing Airfield North. Normally 18 BADGER and a FARMER/FAGOT/FRESCO regiment have occupied Anqing. Prior to the renovation 13 BADGER left Anqing and subsequently were observed at Liuan Airfield. The BEAGLE regiment at Liuan departed and may have deployed to Nanjing/Yuxikou Airfield. The FARMER/FAGOT/FRESCO regiment at Anqing also left and probably deployed to Motou Airfield.

6. (S/D) Hefei Airfield South, a reconstructed airfield, will probably become a major civil airfield in the Nanjing MR. Improvements consist of runway markings, crossover link taxiways, larger parking aprons, and a modern terminal. The airfield is now capable of handling large civil or military jet aircraft.

7. (S/D) Shanghai/Dachang Aircraft Plant/Repair Base [REDACTED] was under construction at Shanghai/Dachang Airfield (Figure 2). The facility will be capable of large aircraft assembly and possibly full aircraft production. Two engine test cells (Figure 3) were identified at Shanghai Probable Aircraft Engine Test and Repair Facility [REDACTED]. The reconstruction of Shanghai/Dachang Airfield was completed in mid-1979. The runway, which was lengthened and resurfaced with concrete, can support large jet aircraft and may be used as a flyaway field for the plant. Both a Boeing 707 and the Chinese jet transport Y-10 (Figure 4), a Chinese-produced aircraft similar to the Boeing 707, have been observed at this field.

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8. (S/D) Other airfield improvements observed in the MR include the construction of a new taxiway and possible new maintenance area at Yiwu Airfield, new construction in the maintenance area at Wuhu Airfield, and hardened bunker construction at Motou (Figure 5), Wuxi, Jiaying, and Lien-yun/Pai-ta-pu Airfields. In addition, aircraft storage tunnels were recently completed at Liuan Airfield. One tunnel is capable of storing BADGER-sized aircraft; the other is capable of storing BEAGLE-sized aircraft (Figure 6).

9. (S/D) Analysis of Bengbu and Yancheng Airfields revealed a high count of trainer aircraft, suggesting that air force schools may now occupy the fields.<sup>4</sup> The trainer aircraft at Bengbu arrived in mid-January 1979 after two regiments of FANTAN departed the Nanjing MR. Various types of fighter aircraft have also been observed in a parking area of Bengbu Infantry Division Headquarters and Army Barracks AL 1 [REDACTED]. Recent construction of a permanent concrete aircraft parking apron suggests that an aircraft maintenance and repair school may occupy this barracks area (Figure 7). The Bengbu area may now be the flight training and aircraft maintenance training center in the Nanjing MR. The trainer aircraft at Yancheng Airfield arrived sometime in December of 1978, after the FAGOT/FRESCO and FARMER regiments had departed.

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10. (S/D) Analysis of electronic landing aids revealed that most airfields have some all-weather capability. Twenty airfields are equipped with nondirectional beacons (NDBs) and six with probable NDBs. Twenty-one fields are equipped with precision approach radars (PARs), and two have probable PARs. Shanghai/Hongqiao Airfield and Hangzhou Airfield have advanced instrument landing systems (ILSs).<sup>5</sup> These systems may be the British Plessey radar systems.

### Imagery Analyst's Comments

11. (S/D) Significant air activity in the MR was highlighted by the return of only four of the nine fighter/fighter-bomber regiments previously deployed south in support of the Chinese incursion into Vietnam. These deployments decreased the air defense capabilities within the MR by two FANTAN regiments, two FARMER regiments, and a FAGOT/FRESCO regiment. Although the overall air defense posture has declined, several air-related improvements have been observed. These include two new air force schools, a new aircraft plant and repair base, and the continued upgrading and improving of several airfields within the MR.

12. (S/D) During the reporting period the CAF supported 14 fighter regiments, two fighter/bomber regiments, three bomber units, and five training units. The CNAF supported six fighter regiments, three bomber regiments, and one transport squadron.

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IMAGERY

(TSR) All applicable KEYHOLE imagery acquired between [redacted] was used in the preparation of this report.

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3. DIRNSA, *Daily Asian Sigint Summary 256-80 (C-CCO)*, 2/00/16955-80, "PRCAF 4th Air Army Subordinates Redefined (SC)," 122036Z Sep 80 (SECRET [redacted])
4. DIRNSA, 2/00/17555-78, *PRCAF 13th Air School Moves from Chinan to Nanjing MR (SC)*, 19 Dec 78 (SECRET/[redacted])
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\*Extracted material is classified SECRET [redacted]

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Asian Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

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